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APR 0 2 2004

To: Edwin Swinehart - art unit 3617

From: Lowell Fink

Re: application no. 09/781,167

OFFICIAL

Dear Mr. Swinehart:

I have just received the return post card acknowledging receipt of my response in the above application. My response was postmarked as registered mail in the French postal system on March 9 and was stamped as received on Mar. 16. The due date to meet the \$55 late fee fell on Sunday, and the US Consul was not able to time stamp mailings for the USPTO. I would appreciate if you could tell me if my response is in order or if I will need to pay additional late fees, and how to do this by telephone or online. I can call you if that is more convenient for you. My fax number is 011-33-493559776, and my email address is <u>ffinklow@gonline.fr</u>.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.